

| Form PTO 1449 (Modified) | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 278224US3X PCT | | SERIAL NO. 10/551,672 | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT | | APPLICANT | | | | | |
| | | Hiromi MATSUMURA, et al. | | FILING DATE | | GROUP | |
| September 30, 2005 | | | | | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | AA | | | | | | |
| | AB | | | | | | |
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| | AL | | | | | | |
| | AM | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | TRANSLATION | | |
| /C.F./ | AN | 07-062528 | 03/07/95 | JP | YES | NO | |
| | AO | 11-061393 | 03/05/99 | JP | | | NO |
| | AP | 04-333565 | 11/20/92 | JP | | | NO |
| | AQ | 11-010363 | 01/19/99 | JP | | | NO |
| | AR | 2003-025078 | 01/28/03 | JP | | | NO |
| | AS | 11-315373 | 11/16/99 | JP | | | NO |
| | AT | 09-508073 | 08/19/97 | JP (equivalent of US5813592) | | | NO |
| | AU | 07-505090 | 06/08/95 | JP (equivalent of US5460317) | | | NO |
| /C.F./ | AV | 2002-248584 | 09/03/02 | JP | | | NO |
| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| /C.F./ | AW | LIU, G. et al., Microstructural Aspects of the Friction-stir Welding of 6061-T6 Aluminum, Scripta Materialia, Vol. 37, No.3, Pages 355 to 361, 1997 | | | | | |
| /C.F./ | AX | RHODES C.G. et al, Effects of Friction Stir Welding on Microstructure of 7075 Aluminum, Scripta Materialia, Vol. 36, No.1, Pages 69 to 75, 1997 | | | | | |
| /C.F./ | AY | OKAMURA Hisanori et al., Behavior of Oxide during Friction Stir Welding of Aluminum Alloy and Its Influence on Mechanical Properties, Quarterly Journal of the Japan Welding Society, Vol. 19, No. 3, Pages 446 to 456, 2001 (with English abstract) | | | | | |
| /C.F./ | AZ | OKAMOTO Kazutaka et al., FSW having an increasing number of applications, Welding Technology, Vol.50, No.6, Pages 68 to 72, 2002 | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached |
| Examiner /Caitlin Fogarty/ | | | | | Date Considered 12/31/2007 | | |
| * Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |

U.S. PCT Application Serial No. 10/551,672
Docket No. 278224US3XPCT

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

1) References AN - AX have been cited in the International Search Report. Copies of these references are being submitted herewith only when not automatically provided by the International Searching Authority.

2) References _____ have been cited in the corresponding _____ Search Report. A copy of these references is being submitted herewith.

3) References AY & AZ are discussed in the specification. A copy of these references is being submitted herewith.

4) References _____ are additional prior art known to Applicant. A copy of these references is being submitted herewith.